IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace original Figs. 2 and 3 with enclosed replacement Figs. 2 and 3.

REMARKS:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 2, 2004, Figs. 2-3 have been amended, claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice, and claims 7 and 11 have been amended in order to more particularly claim the subject matter of the present application. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to correct a typographical error that does not change the scope of the claim. Finally, allowable claims 13 and 28 have been rewritten in independent form. As requested in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated March 7, 2005, "replacement sheet" has been added to the top margin of replacements Figs. 2 and 3 and double brackets have been provided in deletions to the claims and specification.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.84(p)(4) and 1.83(a). In addition, claims 1-10 and 21-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,926,816 ("the Bauer et al. reference"). Because the cited reference fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the subject matter of the present claims, the rejections should be withdrawn.

First, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 13-20 and 28-30 are allowable. Claims 13 and 28 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With respect to the objections to the drawings under 27 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4), as suggested by the Examiner, the reference numbers for replicated databases 1 in Fig. 2 have been changed to 1a-1d, respectively. Similarly, in Fig. 3, replicated databases 10 have been changed to 10a-10d, sequence tables 20 have been changed to 20a-20d, and SM's 15 have been changed to SM 15a-

15d, respectively. The specification has been amended to reflect these changes. Finally, Fig. 4 has not been amended, as the identified "Sequence Table 20" refers to a Sequence Table of a single replicated database and is consistent with the corresponding exemplary method described in the specification between page 10, line 3 and page 13, line 8.

With respect to the objections under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a), Fig. 3 has been amended to include interfaces 25a-25d. This amendment is supported throughout the specification, for example, in the paragraphs of the Summary of the Invention at page 4, lines 13-18 and page 5, lines 4-9, and in original claims 1 and 7. No new matter has been introduced.

Turning to the § 102(b) rejections, the Bauer et al. reference discloses a database synchronizer that is used to synchronize data in a central database with data on one or more client computers. (Col. 1, line 62-col. 2, line 4.) As described, the client detects modifications to its database, the modifications are propagated to the server, and the server detects conflicts, resolves them, and propagates modifications based to the client as refresh data. (Col. 2, lines 12-21).

Although the Bauer et al. reference discloses that the database synchronizer may be divided between at least one client and a server, the Bauer et al. reference clearly includes a single database synchronizer that synchronizes the central database and the remote database. (Col. 2, lines 40-42). In the example described between column 7, line 30 and column 11, line 35, the Bauer et al. reference discloses a "client-side database synchronizer 27x" (col. 8, lines 3-7), but this database synchronizer only sends modifications to the server (col. 9, lines 25-36). The server processes the modifications (col. 9, lines 27-28; col. 10, lines 34-39), resolves any conflicts (col. 11, lines 1-2), and determines the refresh data to return to the client (col. 11, lines

33-39). Thus, the so-called client-side database synchronizer does not receive modifications made on another database and reconstruct those changes on the local database.

Turning to the claims, claim 1 recites a system for synchronizing a plurality of replicated databases at least intermittently communicating with one another that includes a local replicated database; an interface for communicating with one or more remote replicated database via a communications link; and a synchronization manager associated with the local replicated database for sending changes made on the local replicated database to one or more remote replicated databases for reconstruction by the one or more remote replicated databases, receiving changes made on a remote replicated database, and reconstructing changes received from a remote replicated database on the local replicated database.

The Bauer et al. reference fails to teach or suggest a synchronization manager, as claimed. At most, the Bauer et al. reference discloses a client-side database synchronizer that sends modifications to a server and receives refresh data once the server has resolved the changes with a central database. Unlike the client-side database synchronizer of the Bauer et al. reference, the claimed synchronization manager sends changes made on the local replicated database to one or more remote replicated databases for reconstruction by the one or more remote replicated databases, and reconstructs changes received from a remote replicated database on the local replicated database. Accordingly, claim 1 and its dependent claims are neither anticipated nor otherwise obvious in light of the Bauer et al. reference.

Turning to claim 7, a system is recited for synchronizing a plurality of replicated databases at least intermittently communicating with one another that includes a first replicated

database; a second replicated database at least intermittently disconnected from the first replicated database; at least one of the first and second replicated databases comprising an interface for communicating with each other via a communications link; a first synchronization manager associated with the first replicated database for sending changes made on the first replicated database to the second replicated database, receiving changes made on the second replicated database, and reconstructing changes received from the second replicated database on the first replicated database; and a second synchronization manager associated with the second replicated database for sending changes made on the second replicated database to the first replicated database, receiving changes made on the first replicated database, and reconstructing changes received from the first replicated database on the second replicated database, wherein the first and second synchronization managers are configured for reconstructing changes autonomously from one another.

First, as explained above, the Bauer et al. reference fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a synchronization manager for sending changes made on a first replicated database to a second replicated database, receiving changes made on the second replicated database, and reconstructing changes received from the second replicated database on the first replicated database, as claimed. In addition, the Bauer et al. reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest first and second synchronization managers configured for reconstructing changes autonomously from one another, as claimed. In contrast, the Bauer et al. reference merely discloses a central database synchronizer that receives changes from clients, resolves any conflicts in changes, and

returns refresh data to the clients. Accordingly, claim 7 and its dependent claims are neither anticipated nor otherwise obvious in light of the Bauer et al. reference.

For similar reasons, the methods recited in claims 11 and 21 are also neither anticipated nor otherwise obvious in light of the Bauer et al. reference.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims now presented in this application define patentable subject matter over the cited prior art. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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